

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/563,720

Examiner

David D. Le

Applicant(s)

RADINGER ET AL.

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to preliminary amendment filed on 06 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 01/06/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the first Office action on the merits of Application No. 10/563,720, filed on 06 January 2006. Claims 1-19 are pending.

Documents

2. The following documents have been received and filed as part of the patent application:
 - Foreign Priority Document, received on 01/06/06
 - Information Disclosure Statement, received on 01/06/06

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a planet carrier comprising a one-piece, step-shaped outer cup body, a similarly one-piece, step-shaped inner cup body, a sleeve section of the outer cup body, a sleeve section of the inner cup body, a tubular projection, a radially inwardly extending base, a plurality of planet gears, and recesses, as recited in claim 1; specifically, wherein an axial extent of the sleeve section of the inner cup body is smaller than that of the sleeve section of the outer cup body; a sum of axial lengths of the sleeve section and the sleeve of the inner cup body is greater than that of the sleeve section of the outer cup body, so that the sleeve section of the outer and inner cup bodies are closed flush at the end when the planet gears are arranged

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between the ring shaped disks; the recesses are arranged in the sleeve section of the outer cup body and the sleeve of the inner cup body; and the planet gears are guided radially through the recesses.

Claim 2:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a planet carrier comprising a one-piece, step-shaped outer cup body, a similarly one-piece, step-shaped inner cup body, a ring-shaped disk of the outer cup body, a ring-shaped disk of the inner cup body, a tubular projection, a radially inwardly extending base, a plurality of planet gears, and recesses, as recited in claim 2; specifically, wherein the outer and inner cup bodies are configured and arranged axially one inside the other, such that the tubular projection of the inner cup body lies at least partially within the tubular projection of the outer cup body; the recesses are arranged in the sleeve section of the outer cup body and the sleeve of the inner cup body; and the planet gears are installed between the disks and are guided radially through the recesses.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Kimes et al. (U. S. Patent No. 7,223,198) teaches a carrier assembly for a planetary gearset, as shown in Fig.6.
- Nishiji et al. (U. S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0050146 A1) teaches a planetary gear device, as shown in Fig. 2.
- Dach et al. (U. S. Patent No. 3,780,601) teaches a planet carrier for a planetary transmission, as shown in Figs. 2-3.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-7092. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (0700-1530).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David D. Le', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David D. Le
Primary Examiner
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10/05/2007

ddl